It is difficult to single out any special part or section for commendation among so many excellent contributions. The modern trend of affairs is sufficient reason for the inclusion of the interesting chapters dealing with communal, social and legal aspects of woman's reproductive life. The volume is a splendid work of reference on obstetrics, gynecology and closely allied subjects, and reflects great credit on the editor and his large and very able staff of associates.

P. F. W.

COLLECTED STUDIES OF THE BUREAU OF LABORATORIES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK. DR. WILLIAM H. PARK, Director. Vol. IX, 1916–1919. Pp. 491. Published by the Department of Health of New York, 1921.

THE 58 articles comprising this volume (the first to appear since 1915) represent the investigations conducted under Dr. Park's direction between 1916 and 1919 by Krumwiede, Tingler, Hess, Pratt and other well known investigators in the New York Department of Health Laboratories. Although unfortunate that it could not either have been made to include more recent work or else have appeared earlier, it is like most collections of this kind an extremely useful reference book for workers in the same fields. The table of contents is classified into: (1) Applied Therapy and Preventive Medicine; (2) Bacteriology; (3) Chemistry; (4) Diagnosis; (5) Etiology; (6) Immunity; (7) Sanitation; (8) Physiology; (9) Serology.

E. B. K.

THE HEART: OLD AND NEW VIEWS. By H. L. FLINT, M.D., Late Captain R.A.M.C., Cardiological Center for the Northern Command. Pp. 177. New York: Paul B. Hoeber.

THIS little book is divided into two parts. The first is entitled "The Heart in Antiquity" and contains a brief account of views regarding the heart and its diseases from earliest Sumerian times to the latter part of the nineteenth century. The second is headed "The Development of Instruments and Instrumental Methods." For the most part the discussion is concerned with the polygraph, the electrocardiograph and the arrhythmias. A brief historical summary of the development of knowledge concerning the functions of heart muscle is included. A few pages only are devoted to the interpretation of physical signs, the diagnosis of heart disease, heart failure and treatment.

The book contains much of interest and value for the student or practitioner who wishes to acquaint himself with the great names and the great achievements in the history of cardiology. The account of the work of Harvey and his predecessors is particularly well done. One could wish that not so much had been said concerning the abnormal cardiac rhythms and more about the influence of scientific progress in increasing the effectiveness of ordinary clinical methods in diagnosis, prognosis and treatment.

C. C. W.

STUDIES IN DEFICIENCY DISEASE. ROBERT MCCARRISON, M.D., D.Sc., HON. LL.D. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London; Laureat de l'Académie de Médecine, Paris; Honorary Surgeon to the Viceroy of India; Lieutenant-Colonel, Indian Medical Service. Pp. 270; 82 illustrations. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder and Stoughton, 1921.

TUCKED away in the heart of the Himalaya Mountains twenty days' ride from the nearest railroad station, four days' ride from the nearest white person excepting the three white companions he had with him, McCarrison, in the face of these obvious difficulties, has been able to carry out a splendid piece of scientific research work. When one thinks of the many obstacles that had to be met in the nine years of intensive study that this work represents one would not be surprised if it lacked certain details, was incomplete, or was not sufficiently well worked out, but in going over the text one is surprised at the very great completeness of the work and the minuteness with which the studies are conducted from every point of view. McCarrison has studied the effect of deficiency in food on different types of animals, notably the pigeon and the monkey. He has deprived large numbers of them of the various vitamines and then he has studied not only the effect this has had, in a general way, on the animals but he has also studied very carefully and closely the gross morbid and microscopical pathology of the various organs of these animals. It is this phase of his work which is particularly interesting. He shows, for example, that there takes place an enlargement of the adrenal gland as the result of any type of food deficiency, whereas the other endocrine structures tend to atrophy. He shows by very careful weighing of the different endocrine organs just how great is the change in size of these organs on deficient diets and shows microscopically also the changes that take place. The same plan is followed with the gastro-intestinal tract and with the heart and blood-vascular system, as well as the nervous system. In addition to his experimental work McCarrison in the fourth part of his book deals with the practical application of his deficiency disease studies which he has made experimentally. In addition to the usual diseases which we classify as deficiency diseases: pellagra, beriberi, and so on probably the most interesting observation that